out exploration for hydrocarbons in Tripura in accordance with the IX Plan programme, which envisaged drilling of twenty two exploratory wells and acquisition of 1010 Ground Line Kilometre (GLK) of 2D seismic data. Eight exploratory wells were drilled and 330 GLK of 2D seismic surveys were carried out by ONGC in Tripura from 1.4.97 till 1.1.2000.

(d) Does not arise.

Most Favoured Nation Status to Pakistan

*210. SHRI V.N. GADGIL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government believe that Pakistan should be declared as a terrorist state;

(b) if so, why is Pakistan still accorded a Most Favoured Nation status despite no reciprocity;

(c) why has not the liberal visa regime for Pakistani visitors been terminated when its blatant misuse is well known; and

(d) what efforts have been made to have it declared as a terrorist state?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) to (d) The facts regarding Pakistan's state sponsorship of terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir and elsewhere in India have been effectively and appropriately brought before several international fora and have also been raised at high-level bilateral discussions with world leaders. The international community now openly recognises Pakistan's state sponsorship of terrorism and the impact this has on the security of the country and the region.

Contrary to its commitment under the WTO, Pakistan has not extended MFN treatment to India. While Government continue to meet its international trade obligations under its WTO commitments, they also continue to take all necessary actions to protect the country's trade interests vis-a-vis Pakistan.

Government is of the view that the promotion of people-to-people contacts between India and Pakistan contributes to its desire of establishing a relationship of peace, friendship and cooperation with that country. While pursuing such an approach, Government exercises due vigilance including in its visa policy for Pakistani nationals so that the security of the country is safeguarded.